GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6486
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2005
PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAIN
Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area in hectare in the country on which foodgrains are produced at present as also total production of foodgrains in a year;

(b) the hectare area of land out of the above which is entirely rainfed and in which only one crop is being produced in a year;

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring this area under irrigation in order to produce multi crops on it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The average area under foodgrains during the five years from 1998-99 to 2002-03 is 120.78 million hectares and the average production of foodgrains during the above period is 199.40 million tonnes.

(b): Out of the above, 68.72 million hectares (57% of the total) is rainfed out of which about 42.34 million hectares area is under one crop.

(c) & (d): In order to increase production of foodgrains and other commercial crops the Government is implementing various schemes to bring additional areas under irrigation. Irrigation has been identified by the Government as a thrust area for focused and propriety attention. The Union Budget for 2005-06 has accorded high priority to irrigation. The outlay on Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for 2005-06 has been raised to Rs.4800 crores from Rs.2800 crores in 2004-05. Besides, an amount of Rs.400 crores has been provided for micro-irrigation in 2005-06.